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Response Under 37 CFR 1.116  
Expedited Procedure  
Art Unit 1723

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Attorney Docket No. MCA-508

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Thomas Zermani, et al.

SERIAL NO.: 09/811,970

FILED: March 19, 2001

EXAMINER: Marianne S. Ocampo

TITLE: Mechanical Interlock for Filters

GROUP ART UNIT: 1723

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

AMENDMENT

Applicants submits this Response along with clean copies of the specification paragraphs and claims as amended in response to the Office Action dated May 8, 2003 directed to the above-identified application.

**In the Specification:**

Please insert a new paragraph at page 2, at line 18 as follows:

- - The patent or application file contains at least one drawing executed in color. Copies of this patent or patent application publication with color drawing(s) will be provided by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office upon request and payment of the necessary fee. - -

Please insert a new paragraph beginning at Page 2, line 36:

- - Figure 11 shows an alternative embodiment of the present invention in cross sectional view. - -

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 24 as follows:

- - It is contemplated that the present invention would be useful for mechanically locking multiple layers of filters into a filtration device, such as a pre-filter and a filter, thereby